

ND-2020-45-C

Matter #295881

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WINDSTREAM SERVICES II, LLC

4001 Rodney Parham Road
Little Rock, Arkansas 72212

Nicole Winters
Counsel II

501.748.6313
Email: Nicole.Winters@windstream.com

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PSC SC
CLERK'S OFFICE

December 1, 2020

South Carolina Public Service Commission
Attn: Jocelyn Boyd, Chief Clerk
101 Executive Center Drive, Ste. 100
Columbia, SC 29210

Re: INFORMATIONAL COPY
Windstream Services II, LLC and Windstream NuVox, LLC for Authority
Pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934 to Discontinue
the Provision of Certain Services

Dear Chief Clerk Boyd:

Windstream Services II, LLC and Windstream NuVox, LLC respectfully provides this informational copy of the attached Application as filed with the FCC regarding the discontinuance of certain services. This informational copy is provided in compliance with Section 63.71(i) of the FCC's Rules – 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(i).

Any questions regarding this matter should be directed to my attention at 501-748-6313 or via email to Nicole.Winters@windstream.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nicole Winters'.

Nicole Winters
Counsel II

Enclosure

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington D.C. 20554**

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| In the Matter Of |) | |
| |) | |
| Section 63.71 Application of |) | WC Docket No. _____ |
| |) | |
| Windstream Services II, LLC and |) | |
| Windstream NuVox, LLC |) | |
| |) | |
| For Authority Pursuant to Section 214 |) | |
| of the Communications Act of 1934 to |) | |
| Discontinue the Provision of Certain |) | |
| Services |) | |

**SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION OF WINDSTREAM SERVICES II, LLC
AND WINDSTREAM NUVOX, LLC**

Windstream NuVox, LLC a subsidiary of Windstream Services II, LLC (collectively “Windstream”), through its undersigned counsel and pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §214, and Section 63.71 of the Federal Communications Commission’s (“Commission”) rules, 47 C.F.R. §63.71, hereby files this Application to discontinue the provision of certain services in the markets specified below.

In support of this Application, Windstream submits the following information:

1. Information listed in 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(1)-(4) (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(b)(2)):

a. Name and Address of Carrier (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(1)-(4), (b)(2)):

Windstream NuVox, LLC¹
4001 North Rodney Parham Rd.
Little Rock, AR 72212

¹ FRN 0004319414

b. Date of Planned Discontinuance (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(2), (b)(2)):

Windstream plans to discontinue the Affected Services (see sub-paragraph d, below) on or about March 5, 2021.

c. Point of Geographic Areas of Service Affected (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(3), (b)(2)):

The Affected Service will be discontinued in Augusta, GA; Asheville, NC and Columbia, SC.

d. Brief Description of the Type of Service to be Affected (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(4), (b)(2)):

The services to be affected are DS0/POTS, DS0/DSL and/or DS1/1.5Mb T-1 Voice, Data and Integrated services ("the Affected Services") which are currently being offered via collocations that are subject to network consolidation.

2. Brief Description of the Dates and Methods of Notice to All Affected Customers (47 C.F.R. § 63.71 (b)(3)):

On November 30, 2020, Windstream sent by First Class U.S. Mail notice to all affected customers of the planned discontinuance. A copy of such notice as sent is attached hereto as Attachment 1, the notice being compliant with, among other things, Section 63.71(a)(5) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(5).

3. Regulatory Classification of Carrier (47 C.F.R. § 63.71 (a)(4)):

Windstream is nondominant with respect to the service that it proposes to discontinue.

4. Service:

In accordance with Section 63.71(a)(1) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(1), Windstream is submitting a copy of this Application by electronic mail and First Class U.S. Mail to the Georgia Public Service Commission, North Carolina Utilities Commission, South Carolina

Public Service Commission, and South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff; and to the Office of Governor Brian Kemp, Office of Governor Roy Cooper, and Office of Governor Henry McMaster, and also to the Secretary of Defense (at the address given in 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)).

5. Additional Questions Regarding This Application May be Addressed to the Undersigned.

6. Circumstances of Discontinuance.

Over the years, a number of CLECs have become Windstream affiliates and operate as part of the Windstream family of companies. Some of these Windstream CLECs operate in overlapping markets with duplicative collocation facilities.² To improve operational efficiencies, Windstream is in the process of consolidating various collocation facilities across its network. Windstream will continue to serve its customers in each of these markets and geographic coverage will not be affected; however, the menu of services available to customers served through the consolidated collocations will change. The Affected Services are provided on end-of-life platforms that will be decommissioned in the collocations that are being consolidated. A total of four (4) business customers (no residential customers) will be affected. Windstream will assist affected customers, providing them options for migrating to alternative Windstream Services or to move services to another carrier.

These customers will not be unduly harmed because they are being provided ample notice of the discontinuance and are being offered alternative services to the ones being discontinued. Furthermore, customers have comparable options from the other providers serving these locations.

² In some situations, including those customers covered by this Application, the duplicative collocations are separate collocation cages located within the same incumbent LEC central office.

7. Conclusion

Windstream believes that the proposed discontinuance is reasonable and necessary.

As outlined herein, Windstream will take reasonable steps to assure that the discontinuance of the Affected Services is not unduly disruptive to the present or future public convenience and necessity. Accordingly, Windstream respectfully requests that the Commission permit it to discontinue the provision of the Affected Services to customers in the affected locations pursuant to Section 63.71.

/s/ Nicole Winters

Nicole Winters
Counsel II
Windstream Services II, LLC
4001 N. Rodney Parham Rd.
MS: 1170-B1F03-53A
Little Rock, AR 72112
(501) 748-6313
Nicole.Winters@windstream.com

December 1, 2020

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Section 63.71 Application was served this 1st day of December 2020, by mailing true and correct copies thereof, postage prepaid, to the following persons to the addresses listed below.

Secretary of Defense
Attn: Special Assistance for
Telecommunications
Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Georgia Public Service Commission
Attn: Executive Secretary Reece McAlister
244 Washington Street
Atlanta, GA 30334

North Carolina Utilities Commission
Attn: Chief Clerk
4325 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699

South Carolina Public Service Commission
Attn: Jocelyn Boyd, Chief Clerk
101 Executive Center Drive, Ste. 100
Columbia, SC 29210

Office of Governor Brian Kemp
206 Washington Street
Suite 203, State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Office of Roy Cooper
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

The Honorable Henry McMaster
State House
1100 Gervais Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

/s/ Nicole Winters
Nicole Winters

Attachment 1 Customer Notice

Windstream Services, LLC
4001 N. Rodney Parham Rd.
Little Rock, AR 72212

November 30, 2020

«CONTACT_FIRST_NAME» «CONTACT_LAST_NAME» «Contact_2» «BILL_ACCOUNT_NAME»
«BILLING_ADDR_1» «BILLING_ADDR_2»
«BILLING_CITY», «BILLING_STATE» «BILLING_ZIP»

If you are not the site contact or administrator, please kindly pass this important notification on to the appropriate party.

IMPORTANT: Service Discontinuance Notification for Account # «BILLABLE_ACCOUNT_ID»,
Service Location «LOC_ADDR», «LOC_CITY», «LOC_STATE» «LOC_ZIP»
This Change in Service Requires Action on Your Part

Dear Valued Customer,

We wish to inform you of an important change we are making for services in your area.

The platform that currently supports DS0/POTS, DS0/DSL and/or DS1/1.5Mb T-1 Voice, Data and Integrated services has reached the end of its useful life and will soon be decommissioned. As a result, customers in the following areas will have these services retired on or about **March 5, 2021**: Augusta, GA; Asheville, NC and Columbia, SC. Please note, this notification does not affect other services you may have with Windstream Enterprise. If you have recently renewed the services covered by this letter, this service discontinuance notice supersedes (or prevails) for those renewed services.

The change requires action on your part. An Account Representative will be contacting you shortly to make you aware of your options and assist you in any way possible to ensure a smooth transition prior to the service retirement.

The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service (or reduction or impairment) unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. You may file your comments electronically through the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System using the docket number established in the Commission's public notice for this proceeding, or you may address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the § 63.71 Application of Windstream Services, LLC. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance (or reduction or impairment) upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please contact us at 800.600.5050.

Best regards,

Customer Care

